

Child Care Survey for Providers

ABOUT THE SURVEY

This survey comes from a committee of the Washington Early Learning Council (ELC). For more information about the ELC, go to <http://www.washingtonlearns.wa.gov/>. The committee is preparing to draft recommendations to the legislature regarding regulation of child care to ensure its safety, health, quality, and accessibility throughout the state. Another committee is drafting a voluntary early learning quality rating and improvement system. The committees seek the perspectives of a diverse cross-section of child care providers and parents regarding both these issues.

This survey is anonymous. Individual responses will not be reported, but will be summarized with those of other providers. Comments will be generalized and no names or other identifying information will be referenced in the summary. The survey should take no more than 15-minutes to complete.

In order to meet our schedule for developing recommendations, we must receive all responses no later than **May 19, 2006**.

TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY

Print this document out, complete the questions and mail to:

Attn: Regulatory Committee, Early Learning Council
PO 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113.

Thank you for your time and candor.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS SURVEY?

- **An individual child care provider.** If you are completing the survey individually, please skip down to question 1 and begin.

OR

- **A group of providers may complete it jointly—have one person ask the questions and write the answers.** Please write down the responses in as much detail as possible—using the providers' own words whenever possible.

For groups only:

What type of provider group is this? _____

How many providers are participating? _____

**Where providers have different responses to questions, please note how many answer each way.*

SURVEY

1) In what county do you work? _____

2) Where do you provide child care? (For groups, note number in each category)

☐ Child care center

Is it run by:

☐ A private not-for-profit organization or church;

☐ A private for-profit business (owner operated);

☐ A private for-profit business (chain);

☐ Or public/government.

Are you the:

☐ Director/owner;

☐ Lead teacher;

☐ Assistant;

☐ Other: _____.

☐ Licensed family child care home

Are you the:

☐ Owner;

☐ Assistant;

☐ Other: _____.

☐ School age program

☐ Part-day pre-school (not licensed)

☐ Head Start or ECEAP program

☐ Other: _____.

3) How many children are enrolled in your program on an average day? _____

4) How long have you been doing child care? _____

5) Please describe your experience getting and maintaining your child care license.

6) What does licensing do that is helpful to you in understanding and complying with licensing regulations? (Techniques, activities, resources)

7) What does licensing do that is not so helpful?

8) What does a user-friendly licensing model look like to you?

9) What methods do you use to communicate with parents about licensing regulations? How do you communicate with parents about what is important for child care quality?

10) What kinds of supports would you need to improve the quality of your program?

11) Please respond to each statement below by checking one response:

SA: strongly agree;

A: agree;

D: disagree;

SD: strongly disagree;

NA: doesn't apply to me.

**For groups, please indicate how many providers make which responses—for example, in a group of 10, 4 provide may strongly agree, 3 agree, and 3 disagree.*

	SA	A	D	SD	NA
I understand how licensing regulations relate to my program and I apply them on a regular basis.					
Licensing regulations are sometimes confusing and ambiguous.					
I feel comfortable asking licensors questions.					
If I ask a licensing question, I get a prompt response.					
I have made changes in my child care program as a result of resources I received from licensing.					
I have difficulty explaining licensing regulations to parents.					
I have difficulty explaining licensing regulations to my staff.					
I refer to licensing regulations in my daily work.					
Not all facilities that care for children need to be licensed.					
I often feel unprepared for a licensing inspection.					
Parents should be able to ask me questions about my license or licensing in general.					
I use various training opportunities in my community.					
I use mentoring and consultation opportunities in my community					
If mentoring and consultation were available in my community, I would use it to improve the quality of my program					
I know how to maintain compliance with licensing regulations.					
It is difficult to access the resources necessary to maintain a licensed facility.					
It is difficult to access the resources necessary to have a high quality child care program					